



NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER
HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23665



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: 403

April 3, 1974

Mr. Ira H. Abbott
Box 156
Moultonboro, NH 03254

Dear Ess:

Mark Nichols, formerly Chief of the High-Speed Aircraft Division of NASA, Langley Research Center, retired from government service on December 31, 1973, after a career spanning 33 years in aeronautical research. Certainly the aeronautical leadership which our country now enjoys can be ascribed in a significant measure to his dedicated efforts and inspired leadership.

Associates and friends of Mark are planning a retirement party in his honor the night of April 19 to which you are cordially invited. In an era of energy crisis, however, it is recognized that personal attendance may be restricted. But a most satisfactory response would be a personal letter expressing your thoughts on the occasion of Mark's retirement. It is our intention that these letters will be collected and selected portions noted at the retirement party.

Mark, and his wife Eadie, are planning an active retirement to include some foreign travel along with a concerted attack on their respective golf handicaps. After that, one can only surmise where a probing mind and restless energy may lead Mark in his future undertakings.

May I suggest that your response be directed to my attention at my home address, 245 James River Drive, Newport News, VA 23601. Should there be need for further information, I can be reached at MS 403, Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA 23665; phone Area Code 804 827-2961.

Sincerely,

Don

Donald D. Baals
Assistant Chief
High-Speed Aircraft Division

Enclosure

Ess:

*Best wishes for you
continued good health.
When can you get back
to Langley? I would like to
run a cryogenic transonic
tunnel by you. Check your son
on this.*